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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated May 5, 2004, Claims 1-29 are pending. Claims 1-29 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-29 of U.S. Patent No. 6,681,550.

Applicant is enclosing herewith a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. §1.321(c) verifying that U.S. Patent No. 6,681,550 is owned by the assignee of the present application and disclaiming the terminal part of any patent granted on the above-identified application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of the '550 patent. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that the double patenting rejection of Claims 1-29 is overcome.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that Claims 1-29 are allowable.

* * * *

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the remarks presented above, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. In order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

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However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted

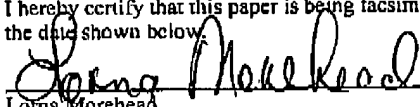


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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.


Loma Morehead

May 26, 2004
Date